



# TOWN OF ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS

# MUNICIPAL MONTHLY



Select Board Vice-Chair Dean Charter raising the flag of India in front of Acton Town Hall.

Header Photo Credit: Lake Nagog Sunset by Kieran Murphy

## AUGUST 2021 MUNICIPAL MONTHLY

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## TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE

DIAL  
**978-929-6600**

### TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

### TOWN HALL & HUMAN SERVICES HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 7:30 PM  
Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Saturday - Sunday : Closed

*NOTE: Town offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 6 (Labor Day) and Friday, Sept. 10 (Professional Development Day)*

### ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Saturday: 10:30 AM-5:30 PM  
Sunday: 2:00 - 5:00 PM

## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

Earlier this year President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act, which provides substantial stimulus funding to municipalities for various initiatives to support recovery after the pandemic. The Town of Acton will be receiving \$7.2 million in funding. The Town Manager's office has convened a staff working group and will coordinate with the Select Board to invest this funding to address community needs.

Under the advisement of the Green Advisory Board, Sustainability Director Andrea Becerra, and in coordination with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, the Town has initiated the development of a Climate Action Plan. This plan will include 15 to 20 strategies for the Town to prioritize for the next 5-10 years to curb community-wide greenhouse gas emissions. Over the next several months, there will be several public information sessions to seek public input. For more information, please see the Sustainability section on Page 7, or visit [actonma.gov/sustainability](https://actonma.gov/sustainability).

On August 1st, the Town Hall proudly hosted a ceremony to kick-off the celebration of India's Independence Day (see photo at top-left). The Select Board has authorized the flag of India to be flown in lieu of the Commonwealth's flag in front of Town Hall for the day. Acton was the first of over 35 communities to host the event this year.

In-person meetings have returned! However, recognizing the convenience and accessibility of meeting remotely, the Select Board has authorized several Boards and Committees to conduct hybrid meetings (both in-person and virtual).



The Select Board held its first in-person meeting since mid-March 2020 in the newly renovated Room 204 on July 12th.

In early August, the Select Board will establish its short-and-long term goals for the community. This year, the Board implemented a community engagement process for input ahead of the goal setting. The goals will be published on [actonma.gov/sb](https://actonma.gov/sb) once complete.

Finally, the Select Board has two new members: Francesca Arsenault and Himaja Nagireddy. I look forward to working with the new Board to advance the interests of the community, and appreciate their continued support of Town staff.

Sincerely,  
John S. Mangiaratti  
Town Manager

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



### PLANNING DIVISION

Please welcome **Kaila Sauer**, Acton's new Assistant Town Planner. Kaila previously worked for the City of Amesbury as the Permit Coordinator where she supported the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Historical Commission. She has a B.A. in Environmental Science and a M.S. in Environmental Science in Policy from Clark University. Kaila has a passion for comprehensive planning; we are excited for her future contributions to the Department and the Town of Acton.



### ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Please welcome **Kate Sawisch**, our new Head of Reference & Adult Services. Kate joined AML's team in June. Kate most recently spent 4 years as the Head of Knowledge & Community Services at the Morse Institute Library in Natick. She may reach out to some departments to partner with AML as she looks for new ways of providing outreach and information services to the community.



### PUBLIC FACILITIES SEASONAL STAFF

Please welcome our new seasonal employee to the Facilities Division, **Victor Margarint**, who brings many skills to his position.

Victor is currently attending the Francis College of Engineering at UMass Lowell working on his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

## MEET THE 2021 SUMMER INTERNS



### SUMMER INTERN SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

**Melissa (Mel) Anderson** is completing her Master's in Environmental Science and Policy at Clark University.

Mel is originally from Missouri and is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer. She enjoys board games, backpacking, and trying not to kill her houseplants.



### SUMMER INTERN SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

**Katrina Siysiybus** is a rising Junior at Bryn Mawr College double majoring in Political Science and Environmental Studies.

Katrina aspires to pursue a career in environmental law or government and enjoys dancing ballet, painting, hiking, and learning about marine biology in her free time.



### SUMMER INTERN SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

**Sophie Picard** is a sophomore at Stony Brook University studying creative writing and physics.

Sophie moved to Acton recently, and enjoys knitting, baking, and astronomy.

## MEET THE 2021 SUMMER INTERNS (CONTINUED)



### SUMMER INTERN COUNCIL ON AGING

**Victoria Huerta** will be completing her Master's degree in Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University this spring. She relocated from NY last year and was a Communications Sergeant in the United States Army.



### SUMMER INTERN COUNCIL ON AGING

**Nicholas Rye** is from Concord and is a sophomore at Richmond University majoring in PPLE (Philosophy, Political Science, Economics and Law). He enjoys tennis and chess.

## POLICE



### COFFEE WITH A COP

**FRIDAY, AUG. 20 | 8:00 - 10:00 AM**

**DUNKIN'S - POWDERMILL PLAZA**

**100 POWDERMILL ROAD**

**DUNKIN'**

## HEALTH DIVISION

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021**

**from 4:00 - 6:30 PM**

The Town of Acton holds a Hazardous Waste Day twice a year and offers residents a safe and legal way of disposing of hazardous materials. For more information on hazardous waste disposal or Hazardous Waste Day, please contact the Health Department at 978-929-6632 or click [here](#).

Location: DPW Garage at 14 Forest Road

Note: These collection services are for Acton residents only and proof of residency will be required.



# Resilience After COVID: A Re-Entry Conversation

PLEASE JOIN THE TOWNS OF ACTON, BOXBOROUGH AND LITTLETON AND WELCOME AUDREY MAY, LMHC

On August 9, 2021

At 11:00 AM

**FREE VIA ZOOM—Pre-Registration is Required**

[https://actonma.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NhIA-R4MRU6xUhwEK1UXBw](https://actonma.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NhIA-R4MRU6xUhwEK1UXBw)

As COVID-19 cases continue to decrease in Massachusetts, residents are faced with the challenge and opportunity of moving forward with their lives. For many, this elicits a host of conflicting feelings. There may be a sense of hope for returning to life as normal, as well as uncertainty over how to rebuild feelings of safety and community. Please join us in a one-hour presentation and discussion that will focus on understanding the COVID-19 pandemic as a shared global trauma. Learn about the mental and physiological effects of trauma, concrete ways for managing symptoms of anxiety associated with COVID, and strategies for gradual re-entry into the community.

## Audrey May, LMHC

Audrey is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor with 9 years of clinical experience. She holds a Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling and a Master's in Criminal Justice Studies, both from Suffolk University. Audrey has worked in a variety of settings including in-home, group/residential settings, and outpatient services, with an emphasis on reaching under-served communities. She works with teens, young adult, and adult populations with a specialty in trauma treatment, depression and anxiety disorders, and high-risk behavior.

For more information please contact Sheryl Ball at the Acton Health Division at [sball@actonma.gov](mailto:sball@actonma.gov)

or call 978-929-6453

## THIS MONTH IN SUSTAINABILITY

### WHAT HAPPENED AT THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP) VISIONING WORKSHOP?

On June 30th, together with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) we held the first Climate Action Workshop! We had over 60 participants. We asked participants to write a postcard from their future self to gather input on their vision for Acton. Interested to see what they put? CLICK [HERE](#) to get the full details of this workshop.

### WORRIED YOU MISSED YOUR CHANCE TO GIVE INPUT ON THE CAP? DON'T BE!

Together with MAPC, we will be facilitating several workshops between now and December on three themes: 1) Nature-based Solutions; 2) Mobility; 3) Buildings & Energy. Please find the dates and times for each workshop, including a registration link. We look forward to your continued participation in the process!

### CLIMATE ACTION PLAN WORKSHOPS: SIGN UP TODAY!

#### **BUILDINGS & CLEAN ENERGY**

**AUGUST 3 | 12:00-1:15PM: [BIT.LY/36AEIEO](https://bit.ly/36AEIEO)**



#### **NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**

**AUGUST 4 | 7:00-8:15PM: [BIT.LY/3IVADEL](https://bit.ly/3IVADEL)**



#### **MOBILITY**

**AUGUST 5 | 7:00-8:15PM: [BIT.LY/2UNVBGH](https://bit.ly/2UNVBGH)**



### A WALK AROUND STONEFIELD FARM – BOSTON AREA GLEANERS NEWEST ACQUISITION

“The tour of Stonefield Farm started with a detailed history of the 51.5-acre farm’s long journey to become owned by the Boston Area Gleaners. Now, this farm will have a new purpose with 28 acres set aside for agriculture use and the other 23 acres to be used for a variety of activities such as conservation purposes, educational opportunities, and maybe even some hiking trails! After learning about all the fun and exciting possibilities that the Boston Area Gleaners are working on, we then got to get our feet muddy and take a walk around the farm. We were led past rows of beautiful crops and giant old trees; the setting was serene and beautiful – especially knowing all the good work that is happening around us. An overall wonderful experience led by Jody Harris of ACT and Christa Collins of SVT.”

– *Mel Anderson*, Summer Intern for the Town of Acton Sustainability Office



## RECREATION DIVISION

### **NARA CAMP FOR AGES 4 - 14**

**Week 8 - Aug 9-13: Winter Wonderland**

**Week 9 - Aug 16-20: NARA's Got Talent**

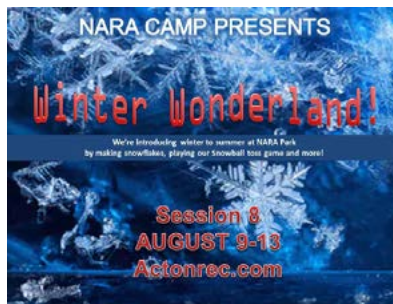
**Week 10 - Aug 23-27: Wet n' Wild**

**REGISTRATION CLOSES AT NOON THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO EACH SESSION START DATE. SESSIONS OFFERED THROUGH AUGUST.**

**NARA BEACH:** Open Daily 9AM-6PM through Aug. 27

### **AUGUST PROGRAMS OFFERED:**

- Amazing Athletes (Ages 3-5)
- Code Wiz Summer Camp (Ages 7-17)
- Super Soccer Stars (Ages 2-7)
- Summer Tennis Clinic (Ages 4-9)
- ThinkForFun (Grades K-8)
- Bus Trips have returned!



### **NEW CLASSES FOR FALL AND WINTER BEING ADDED:**

Sign up has begun for fall classes. We are continuing to add classes weekly for this coming fall and winter to include: Tennis for Youth, Tennis for Adults, Jazz Shoes for Kids, Fairy-tale/Disney Dance Class with Nicole, Beginner/Intermediate Ballet, Code Wiz Coding Classes, Barre Style-Stretch, Strength and Dance, Zumba, Belly Dancing, Super Soccer Stars, Amazing Athletes, Basketball, Flag Football, Online Gaming and much more coming soon!

### **UPCOMING BUS TRIPS! CLICK [HERE](#) FOR BUS TRIP FORM**

**Cape Cod Canal's 107th Anniversary Tour!**  
**August 7, 2021 (Saturday)**



**Sandwich Sightseeing & Daniel Webster House Grand Buffet**  
**Narrated Two Hour Cape Cod Canal Tour**

**Cape Cod Canal's 107th Anniversary Tour!**  
**Saturday, August 7**

Sandwich sightseeing & Daniel Webster House Grand Buffet. Narrated Two-Hour Cape Code Canal Tour. Depart NARA Park 8:30 AM, Return approx. 5:30 PM. \$109 per person. Limited seats available.

### **Cruise Lake Winnepesaukee on the M/S Mount Washington, Saturday, Sept. 11**

Sailing from Weirs Beach, you'll delight in the beautiful vistas of the White Mountains from the decks of the 230-foot M/S Mount Washington as you cruise the famous lake. The cruise includes a delicious full course buffet luncheon. Before the cruise, you'll visit the Mountain Farm Market. Depart NARA at 8:30 AM and return back approx. 5:30 PM. \$109 per person.



**Acton Recreation Proudly Presents!!!**  
**2021 Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise**

### **The Green Mountain Railroad! Saturday, October 9**

Exciting scenic day in Vermont during the most beautiful time of year. After a visit to King Arthur Flour Company Store in Norwich, VT, we'll travel to Chester, VT for a delicious hot luncheon (turkey dinner or meatloaf dinner) and two-hour stunning foliage train ride! Depart NARA at 7:30 AM and return at 6:00 PM. Cost is \$109 per person.

Visit [ACTONREC.COM](https://www.actonrec.com) for details on all events, programs, camp and more!



## RECREATION DIVISION

### **NARA AUGUST EVENTS at the NARA AMPHITHEATER**

Fri, Aug. 6 - 8-10:30 PM: The Breakers - A Tribute to Tom Petty, Tickets click [here](#), under 10 free.

Wed, Aug. 11 and Aug. 18, 7:30 PM: Movie Nights (Harry Potter), Free admission, snack bar open.

Fri, Aug. 14 - 8-10:30 PM: Terrapin-Ultimate Grateful Dead Experience, Tickets click [here](#), under 10 free.

Sat, Aug. 21 - 8-10:30 PM: Into the Floyd with Laser Light Show, Tickets click [here](#), under 10 free.

Sun, Aug. 22 - 12-3 PM: Beach Party featuring Scooby Snax Band, Free admission during event, waterslide wristband \$5, grilled food available for purchase

Sat, Aug. 28 - 8-10:30 PM: Foreigners Journey, Tickets click [here](#), under 10 free.



**THE BREAKERS**  
A TRIBUTE TO TOM PETTY

**FRIDAY, AUG 6**  
8:00 - 10:30 PM  
**NARA PARK**  
25 LEDGE ROCK WAY, ACTON, MA  
**actonrec.com**

Tickets are \$15 per person if purchased online in advance or \$20 at the door or day of event.  
Children 10 & under free with paid adult.  
Credit card convenience fee will be added to all credit card transactions. This event is subject to change if necessary.



**MOVIES IN THE PARK**

**Wednesday Nights**  
**August 11 & August 18**  
**NARA PARK BATHHOUSE PAVILION**  
**Free Admission**

Movie will start at dusk. Movie rating up to PG-13.  
Snack Bar will be open.

**actonrec.com**



**TERRAPIN**  
THE ULTIMATE GRATEFUL DEAD EXPERIENCE

**FRI, AUG. 13, 2021**  
8:00 - 10:30 PM  
**NARA PARK AMPHITHEATER - ACTON, MA**  
**\$15 IN ADVANCE | \$20 DOOR OR DAY OF**  
**ACTONREC.COM**

CHILDREN 10 & UNDER FREE / CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE FEE ADDED TO ALL CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS



**INTO THE FLOYD**  
**SAT, AUGUST 21, 2021**  
8:00-10:30 PM  
**NARA PARK AMPHITHEATER**  
25 LEDGE ROCK WAY, ACTON

**INTO THE FLOYD - THE INTERNATIONAL PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE**  
INCLUDING A FULL PRODUCTION LASER LIGHT SHOW!

**\$15 IN ADVANCE | \$20 DAY OF OR AT GATE**

**ACTONREC.COM**

CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER FREE / CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FEE ADDED TO ALL CREDIT TRANSACTIONS



**BEACH PARTY**

**SUN, AUG. 22, 2021**  
12:00 - 3:00 PM  
**NARA PARK BEACH**  
**FREE EVENT**  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**ACTONREC.COM**

**SCOOPY SNAX BAND**



**FOREIGNERS JOURNEY**  
FEATURING:  
**CONSTANTINE MAROULIS**  
2X Tony Nominated Star of Broadway's  
Rock of Ages and American Idol Faves

**SAT, AUG 28, 2021**  
8:00-10:30 PM  
**NARA PARK AMPHITHEATER**  
25 LEDGE ROCK WAY - ACTON, MA

**\$15 IN ADVANCE | \$20 DAY OF OR AT THE DOOR**  
CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE FEE ADDED TO ALL CREDIT TRANSACTIONS  
CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER FREE WITH PAID ADMISSION

**ACTONREC.COM**

### **DO YOU GET OUR E-NEWSLETTER? STAY UP-TO-DATE ON THE LATEST...**

The Recreation's Department e-newsletter is packed with all good things recreation! To be added to the distribution list, please send an email to [recreation@actonma.gov](mailto:recreation@actonma.gov).



## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Acton Senior Center/Council on Aging is offering in-person and virtual events in August. There are exercise classes, lifelong learning opportunities, a live concert, meals, and various groups. The Senior Center hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 AM to 5 PM, Tuesday 8 AM to 7:30 PM, and Friday 8 AM to noon. Visit our website [www.actoncoa.com](http://www.actoncoa.com) for the latest information, to view our newsletter, or to sign up for notifications. Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook @actoncoa](https://www.facebook.com/actoncoa)!

### August program highlights:

- A conversation about resilience during the re-entry phase of COVID on Monday, August 9 via Zoom
- Classical music piano concert by ABRHS student Naomi Yamaguchi in-person on Tuesday, August 10
- The Great Ladies of Song: Dinah Shore, Patti Page and Doris Day via Zoom on Wednesday, August 18
- A Stepping Stone to Oblivion: A History of the US Vice Presidency via Zoom on Tuesday, August 24
- The Surreal World of René Magritte via Zoom on Wednesday, August 25
- Our summer intern Nick is running intergenerational chess on the evenings of Tuesday, August 3 and 17

There are eight in-person fitness classes a week, Horticultural Therapy workshops sponsored by Friends of the Acton Nursing Service, a game night, a garden swap, and a visit by an ice cream truck.

Many of our regular activities, such as needle arts and Computer Club, have returned to in-person gatherings. The gym is open and training to use the equipment and to monitor the gym is required. The Dubliners seminar, watercolor classes and Words Galore conclude this month.

Our Minuteman Senior Service dining site offers in-person lunches Monday through Thursday at noon. Grab and Go lunches continue to be offered Monday through Friday. Sign up at least 24 hours in advance with John, the dining room coordinator, in-person, or call (781) 221-7098. In addition, Benchmark at Robbins Brook is providing a lunch to eat in or take out and members of the Acton Fire Department are preparing the annual BBQ.

For seniors and their family members seeking information on area social services, please contact COA Senior Services Coordinator Beverly Hutchings at (978) 929-6652. She provides information on home care agencies, elder day programs, housing options, food and fuel assistance, and a variety of other services. The COA also offers appointments with a SHINE counselor to discuss Medicare insurance options.

The COA is following federal state and local COVID-19 guidelines. Vaccinated people no longer are required to wear face coverings or social distance while in the building. Please stay home if you are not feeling well and remember signing in when you enter the building is required. If you need a new "My Senior Center" key tag, please let us know.

To be added or removed from the paper newsletter mailing list please contact us. You can reach the Council on Aging at 978-929-6652 and [seniorcenter@actonma.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov).



*Needle Arts Group*



*The Gym at the COA*



# DIRECTORY OF TOWN DEPARTMENTS

**TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE - (978) 929-6600**

<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>	<b><u>E-Mail</u></b>
Acton Nursing Services	978-929-6650	<a href="mailto:nursing@actonma.gov">nursing@actonma.gov</a>
Assessors Division	978-929-6621	<a href="mailto:assessor@actonma.gov">assessor@actonma.gov</a>
Building Division	978-929-6633	<a href="mailto:building@actonma.gov">building@actonma.gov</a>
Cemetery Division	978-929-6642	<a href="mailto:cemetery@actonma.gov">cemetery@actonma.gov</a>
West Acton Citizens' Library	978-929-6654	<a href="mailto:wacl@actonma.gov">wacl@actonma.gov</a>
Collector/Treasurer Division	978-929-6622	<a href="mailto:collector@actonma.gov">collector@actonma.gov</a>
Community Resources	978-929-6651	<a href="mailto:lducharme@actonma.gov">lducharme@actonma.gov</a>
Council on Aging	978-929-6652	<a href="mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov">seniorcenter@actonma.gov</a>
Engineering Division	978-929-6630	<a href="mailto:engineering@actonma.gov">engineering@actonma.gov</a>
Fire Department	978-929-7722	<a href="mailto:fire@actonma.gov">fire@actonma.gov</a>
Health Division	978-929-6632	<a href="mailto:health@actonma.gov">health@actonma.gov</a>
Highway Division & Transfer Station	978-929-7740 978-929-7742	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Human Resources Department	978-929-6613	<a href="mailto:hr@actonma.gov">hr@actonma.gov</a>
Information Technology Department	978-929-6612	<a href="mailto:it@actonma.gov">it@actonma.gov</a>
Acton Memorial Library	978-929-6655	Visit: <a href="http://actonmemoriallibrary.org">actonmemoriallibrary.org</a>
Municipal Properties Division	978-929-7744	<a href="mailto:mpo@actonma.gov">mpo@actonma.gov</a>
Natural Resources Division	978-929-6634	<a href="mailto:NR@actonma.gov">NR@actonma.gov</a>
Planning Division	978-929-6631	<a href="mailto:planning@actonma.gov">planning@actonma.gov</a>
Police Department	978-929-7711	<a href="mailto:police@actonma.gov">police@actonma.gov</a>
Public Facilities Division	978-929-7744	<a href="mailto:mpo@actonma.gov">mpo@actonma.gov</a>
Public Works Department	978-929-7740	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Recreation Division	978-929-6640	<a href="mailto:recreation@actonma.gov">recreation@actonma.gov</a>
Town Clerk Division	978-929-6620	<a href="mailto:clerk@actonma.gov">clerk@actonma.gov</a>
Town Manager's Office	978-929-6611	<a href="mailto:manager@actonma.gov">manager@actonma.gov</a>
Veterans' Services	978-929-6614	<a href="mailto:vso@actonma.gov">vso@actonma.gov</a>
Acton Water District	978-263-9107	Visit: <a href="http://www.actonwater.com">www.actonwater.com</a>